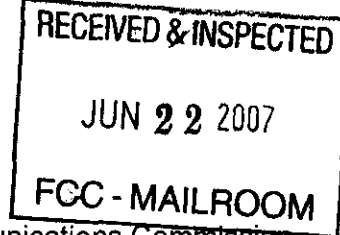




State of Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

Steven Stubbs
Chairperson
www.cdhh.idaho.gov
maynardw@dhw.idaho.gov



Wes Maynard
Executive Director
1720 Westgate Drive
Boise, Idaho 83704
(208) 334-0879 or 1-800-433-1323 V
(208) 334-0803 or 1-800-433-1361 TTY
(208) 334-0952 FAX

Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Chairman Kevin Martin
P.O. Box 15477
Washington, D.C. 20077-0836

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

June 1, 2007

Dear Chairman Martin,

The Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is deeply concerned about potential cuts to reimbursement rates for VRS.

In Idaho, there are over 100,000 hard-of-hearing individuals and over 3,000 deaf individuals. Many deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing individuals rely on VRS for their personal and business affairs.

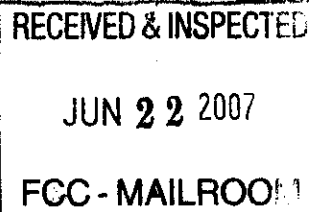
Outreach needs to be expanded, interpreter training should be increased, and enhanced technology should be made available to ensure quality 24/7 and 911 services.

Please be fair to those who are not able to speak on the phone without VRS service by setting a fair rate. The rate should be increased, not decreased.

Regards,

Wes Maynard
Executive Director

Cc: Jonathan Adelstein, Robert McDowell, Michael Copps, Deborah Tate



RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

445 Twelfth Street SW

Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin, Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate:

I am a deaf person and I use Video Relay Service (VRS) to communicate. I was appalled to learn that the FCC staff is intent on drastically cutting the VRS rate, and effectively cutting VRS availability for the deaf. Instead of seeking to limit the number of deaf people with VRS access, the FCC should do everything in its power to make VRS available to more deaf people.

I, along with other Deaf individuals, use these services in both my work and personal life. It is an important way in which I/we communicate with both hearing and deaf individuals. I urge you to do everything you can to make VRS service available to the many deaf people who currently do not have access to this vital, life-changing service.

The VRS rate should encourage the VRS providers to:

- Serve more deaf people, not discourage them from reaching out to more deaf people
- Provide interpreter training programs so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS and the local Deaf communities
- Provide service and technology improvements, such as the development of new videophone equipment, fulfilling the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) mandate of functionally equivalent telecommunications services

I, along with other deaf individuals, their families and coworkers, depend on VRS and other relay services.

Please stop any VRS program cuts and fulfill the mandate of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to provide deaf people with functionally equivalent telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Caspar J. Green
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner Tate:


It has come to my attention that the FCC has proposed a Video Relay Service (VRS) rate reduction. I am writing to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT this proposed rate reduction.

My wife has a deaf employee and she installed a videophone for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, she has been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have her employee use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower her office with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

All of this tells me that this is an extremely lucrative enterprise for them. They would not expend this much time and energy on one single videophone user if there were not much to gain. As a taxpayer, I am concerned that these VRS providers are being over-compensated for their service. I think it is time to let the free market influence the cost of this service. Please reduce the rate and see which providers are still interested. I suspect they all will be.

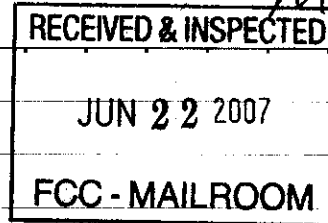
Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caspar J. Green', written over a horizontal line.

Caspar J. Green

MAY/31/07



H: GUY,

How ARE you?

I AM FINE.

SORRY

My MOTHER ALREADY DEAD.

My MOTHER NAME IS MARG- P. FREDERICK.
ONLY ME - CLIFTON FREDERICK
STILL HERE.

I NOT HAVE EMAIL/COMPUTER.

SO I THINK SO AND ASK YOU SOMETHING.

~~RECEIVED~~ WILL I USE TDD CALL YOU TURN

YOU TALK OUR FRIEND VHS?

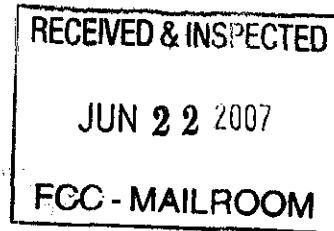
IF YOU CAN OR NOT, LET I KNOW
you

WRITE NOTE OF MESSAGE AND SEND
IT TO ME.

LET I KNOW.

BY FRIEND CLIFTON FREDERICK
(DEAF)

1709 W. McRainey Road
Parkton, NC 28371-9441
June 5, 2007



RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

TO: Chairman Martin;
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

I am Deaf and I need Video Relay Service (VRS) in order to be able to place and receive phone calls with hearing individuals in my own native language which is a visual gestural language – American Sign Language (ASL). I am writing to strongly urge the FCC to establish a new stable, reliable, and predictable VRS rate for the next three years. I know that a long term stable rate will directly impact the VRS services that I rely upon.

I am a 72 year old senior citizen that is not able to travel long distance on account of the Osteoarthritis I have. I am most appreciative that I can still keep in touch with my Deaf friends who live in other states, especially Oregon since I am a native of Oregon.

Please set a fair VRS rate that encourages VRS providers to:

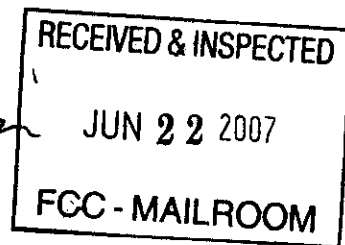
- 1) to offer VRS service to the 90% of the Deaf people who currently lack VRS.
- 2) to train more interpreters so that there will be an adequate number of qualified interpreters for VRS.
- 3) improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services.

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully, *Beth A. Sandefur*

Email *rsandefur@embargo.mail.com*
(*rsandefur@embargo.mail.com*)

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
P.O. Box 15477
Washington, DC 20077-0836



May 30th 2007

Dear Chairman of FCC: Kevin Martin

I would like you to know that most deaf peoples have videophone to use VRS to make better communicate w/ hearing peoples to be sure understand what VRS & deaf peoples to make clearly than TDD or TTY to make not clearly w/ VRS to use TTY or TDD w/ hearing peoples also sometime not to clearly to understand what they say ??

Please keep support on VRS & deaf people to use Video phone on "not cutting budget on VRS" in future...

Thank you for support this: not cutting budget on VRS Sincerely,
Jim R Grossman Sr
902 W M ST
MS Gook. Ne 6901-2483

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAIL ROOM

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

To: Chairman Martin;
Commissioners Adelstein, Capps, McDowell, and Tate

I am Deaf and I need Video Relay Service (VRS) in order to be able to place and receive phone calls with hearing individuals in my own native language – American Sign Language (ASL). I am writing to strongly urge the FCC to establish a new stable, reliable, and predictable VRS rate for the next three years. I know that a long-term stable rate will directly impact the VRS services that I rely upon.

Please set a fair VRS rate that encourages VRS providers to:

- Increase VRS access for all Deaf individuals through outreach programs
- Invest in the training and development of additional professional interpreters
- Improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully, Jennifer Powell
Print Name

Email jnpw@aoi.com

Print Return Address:

Libby Bernth
410 W. Randle St.
Lebanon, IL 62220

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

MAILROOM

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

Chairman Martin, Please Set a Fair VRS Rate.

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 1844

WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

CHAIRMAN KEVIN MARTIN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PO BOX 15477
WASHINGTON, DC 20077-0836



RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

To: Chairman Martin;
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

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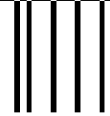
Respectfully, LIBBY BERNTH
Print Name

Please don't cut us from the hearing world & our Deaf community. This is a very effective way for us to communicate between 2 worlds (Deaf & Hearing)

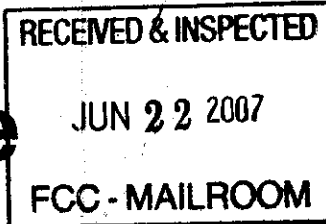
Email aspen4me@charter.net

Print Return Address:

Linda Fay Cartwright
1330 Heritage Dr. # 54
Jacksonville, FL 32216



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



Chairman Martin, Please Set a Fair VRS Rate.

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WASHINGTON, DC

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CHAIRMAN KEVIN MARTIN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PO BOX 15477
WASHINGTON, DC 20077-0836



RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

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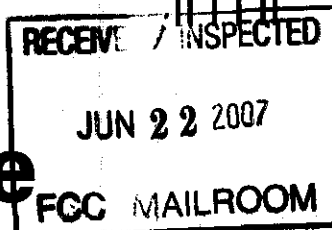
Respectfully, Linda Kay Cartwright
Print Name

Email CartwrightLindaKay@yahoo.com

Print Return Address:



DE VRIES
725 S. CARROLL AVE.
MICHIGAN CITY, IN 46360-5820



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

Chairman Martin, Please Set a Fair VRS Rate.

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 1844

WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

CHAIRMAN KEVIN MARTIN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PO BOX 15477
WASHINGTON, DC 20077-0836



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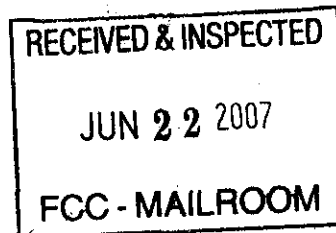
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Respectfully, DAVID DeVries
Print Name

Email DeVries 8183401
Co

hello To you



my Name is ReedANN

I say "even" the Deaf people have
Sorenson-VP 200. But I don't have
Sorenson-VP 200. I don't want Sorenson-
VP 100 Change I want to need New Sorenson
VP 200 OK Please you give To me for
New Sorenson-VP 200 OK. I let know To
you will receive and inform me from.
New Sorenson-VP 200 OK. When you send a
letter, I want know appointment When
you inform me.

Please ^{write to} send a letter me soon

thank you
ReedANN

**Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
PO Box 15477
Washington, DC 20077-0836**

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

**To: Chairman Martin; Commissioners Adelstein, Copps,
McDowell, and Tate**

From: Print name Kathy Thomas

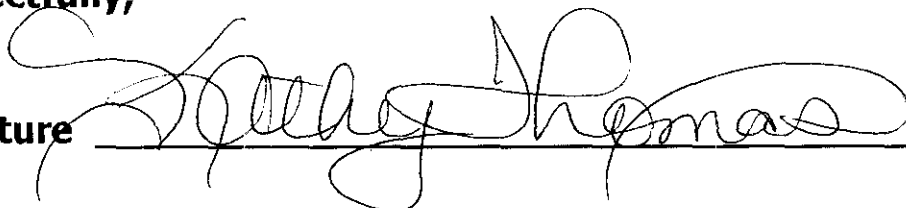
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- 3. Improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services.**

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully,

Signature 

Email alohakat74@yahoo.com



State of Idaho Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor

Steven Stubbs
Chairperson
www.cdhh.idaho.gov
maynardw@dhw.idaho.gov

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Wes Maynard

Executive Director
1720 Westgate Drive
Boise, Idaho 83704

(208) 334-0879 or 1-800-433-1323 V
(208) 334-0803 or 1-800-433-1361 TTY
(208) 334-0952 FAX

Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Chairman Kevin Martin
P.O. Box 15477
Washington, D.C. 20077-0836

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

June 1, 2007

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Please be fair to those who are not able to speak on the phone without VRS service by setting a fair rate. The rate should be increased, not decreased.

Regards,

Wes Maynard
Executive Director

Cc: Jonathan Adelstein, Robert McDowell, Michael Copps, Deborah Tate ✓

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Caspar J. Green
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner McDowell:

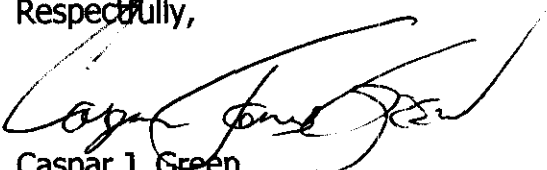
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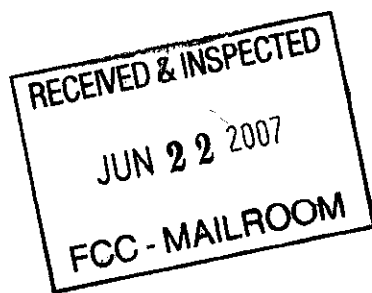
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All of this tells me that this is an extremely lucrative enterprise for them. They would not expend this much time and energy on one single videophone user if there were not much to gain. As a taxpayer, I am concerned that these VRS providers are being over-compensated for their service. I think it is time to let the free market influence the cost of this service. Please reduce the rate and see which providers are still interested. I suspect they all will be.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,


Caspar J. Green



Christy Hughes
71 Glenwood Avenue
Queensbury, NY 12804

June 1, 2007

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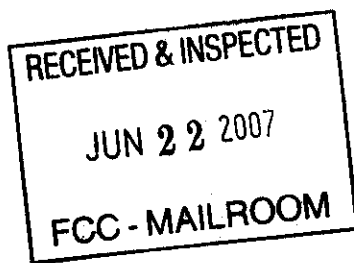
We have a deaf employee in our building and we installed a videophone for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, we have been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have us use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower us with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

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Respectfully,

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Caspar J. Green
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls, NY 12801

June 1, 2007

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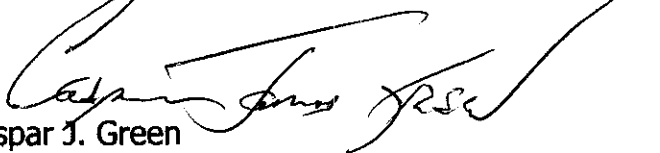
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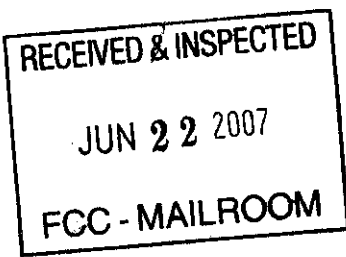
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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,



Caspar J. Green



Brooke Newell
19 Fulton Street
Glens Falls NY 12801

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner McDowell:

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I have a deaf employee and have installed a videophone in the building for his use. Since it was installed in December of 2006, I have been hounded non-stop by sales representatives from competing VRS providers to have us use their service when placing VRS calls. Each sales representative will boast that their company has the best interpreters and the fastest connection time. They shower me with little marketing gifts such as pens, notepads, magnets, and calendars.

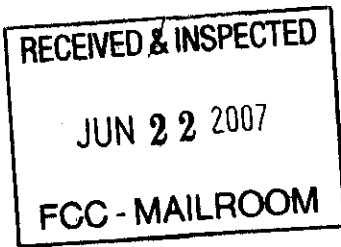
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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brooke Newell".

Brooke Newell



Christy Hughes
71 Glenwood Avenue
Queensbury, NY 12804

June 1, 2007

Dear Commissioner Copps:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has proposed a Video Relay Service (VRS) rate reduction. I am writing to let you know that I FULLY SUPPORT this proposed rate reduction.

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Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christy Hughes". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "H" and a cursive "Christy".

Christy Hughes

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

6/6/07 Wed P.M.

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAIL ROOM

Dear Mr. Martin,

It's a wonderful thing to have VRS so we
deaf/hearing impaired can call up friends, etc.
But ~~as~~ the VRS/VP-100 screen cut down and
we're not able to call & report the problems that
we can't make the calls or receive calls. Lots of
time I've "Resolving" & "Retraining List" or
"Network Connections" which this one is a warning
that popped on my screen - This has been
going on for 6 Months & I finally got hold
of the VRS tech supports few times to send
VRS trainer to my home to check the problems
& not one soul come to my house & that
made me so mad - I'll make the more
payment (using cable) & plan to shut it down
& don't like having to waste my money for
nothing that I can't call in or out for days -
I hope this will not happens in the nearer future
because I've a deaf granddaughter at the age

Of three + I'm 65 -

Thank you for your attention & reading this letter - You need to fly out to Utah + see how the people do their jobs - It says it open 365 days, 7 days + 24 hrs. But no - Couldn't get the call open up as I'd timed + waited & waited for someone to answer my calls. This is the VRS Tech Support Dept - Even couldn't get someone to answer 114 calls - What's going on with these Tech people? It's worse than the telephone dept -

Sincerely
Mrs Barbara Purifoy

RE: CG Docket No. 03-123

To: Chairman Martin;
Commissioners Adelstein, Copps, McDowell, and Tate

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- › Increase VRS access for all Deaf individuals through outreach programs
- › Invest in the training and development of additional professional interpreters
- › Improve VRS technology to provide reliable 24/7 and 911 services

Cutting the VRS rate would severely impact the quality of VRS, which I rely on for my communication needs.

Respectfully, *JAYNELE JOHNSON*
Print Name

Email *JAYNELE@MAILSTATION.COM*

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

JUN 22 2007

FCC - MAILROOM

Address:

LM Johnson
RIS AVE #2
ON RA 95210

**Chairman Martin, Please
at a Fair VRS Rate.**

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST-CLASS MAIL

PERMIT NO. 1844

WASHINGTON, DC

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

CHAIRMAN KEVIN MARTIN
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
PO BOX 15477
WASHINGTON, DC 20077-0836

NO POSTAGE
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UNITED STATES

